



U P D A T E

St. Lucie County

June 15, 2006

**A Monthly Update
of Current Events
and Happenings
within St. Lucie**

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This update is published monthly by the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners' Public Information Office.
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Board of County Commissioners Special Meetings & Workshops Scheduled

- There will be NO Board of County Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, July 4, 2006, due to the County's observance of the Holiday.
- There will be NO Board of County Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, December 26, 2006, due to the County's observance of the Holiday.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold an Infrastructure Workshop on Monday, June 19, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon in the County Commission Chambers.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday, July 11, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. in the County Commission Chambers for the 1st reading of the Adams Ranch Rural Land Stewardship – Land Development Regulations.
- The Port St. Lucie City Council will host a Joint Meeting with the Board of County Commissioners and the City of Fort Pierce Commission on Thursday, July 13, 2006 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Port St. Lucie Community Center.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold a TVC Infrastructure Workshop on Monday, July 17, 2006 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the County Commission Chambers.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold a Special Meeting on Monday, August 14, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. in the County Commission Chambers for the 2nd reading of the Adams Ranch Rural Land Stewardship – Land Development Regulations. .
- The Board of County Commissioners Reorganization meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 26, 2006, at 9:00 a.m.

Burn Ban In Place Countywide

On June 13, the Board of County Commissioners extended the State of Local Emergency due to drought conditions and issued a countywide burn ban. The burn ban for agriculture and land clearing has been lifted. Only the Florida Division of Forestry permitted burns are allowed. No burning of yard trash or any fireworks will be permitted until further notice. Additionally, an irrigation restriction for St. Lucie County Utilities customers is in place with no lawn watering between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. For more information, call (772) 462-1150.

"A Sapling's Canopy"

"A Sapling's Canopy", a sculpture by North Carolina artist Jason Losko has been on loan, through the St. Lucie County Art in Public Places Program, to Heathcote Botanical Gardens for over one year. On May 16, the Board of County Commissioners approved the purchase of the sculpture in the amount of \$9,500 to be displayed at Heathcote Botanical Gardens as part of the Arts in Public Places Program's permanent inventory.

Entrada Avenue and Rio Mar Drive Landscape Project

The Entrada Avenue and Rio Mar Drive Landscape Project provides for landscaping improvements to be placed between US 1 and Entrada Avenue, within the median area. The project limits extend from Rio Mar Drive to Banyan Drive. Additionally, a landscaped median will be constructed on Rio Mar Drive between the limits of Beach Avenue and US 1. A sprinkler system will be installed using wells as a source of irrigation. Concrete curbing will be placed along the outer perimeter of the landscape medians. On May 16, the Board of County Commissioners approved awarding the Project to low bidder, Sunshine Land Design in the amount of \$401,529.60. The project is expected to begin at the end of June 2006 and will be complete by the end of September 2006.

Plasma Arc Gasification Facility

On May 31, 2006, RFQ#06-065, Request for Qualification to permit, finance, construct, operate and own a Plasma Arc Gasification Facility to process municipal solid waste for St. Lucie County was opened. On June 6, 2006, a Selection Committee met to review the proposals. On June 13, the Board of County Commissioners, awarded RFQ#06-065 to the highest ranked company, Geoplasma, LLC. Inc.

Open Space Park

Edlund, Dritenbas, Binkley Architects and Associates, P.A., is under a continuing contract with the County to provide architectural and engineering services. On June 13, the Board of County Commissioners approved Work Authorization to Edlund, Dritenbas, Binkley Architects and Associates, P.A., for architectural/engineering services of Open Space Park's basketball court canopy at a cost of \$32,464.

Correctional Officers

On June 13, the Board of County Commissioners approved funding up to \$226,718 for 13 additional Correctional Officers for the operation of the existing jail and Pod 1, effective July 2006. The Board of County Commissioners also approved \$324,560 to repair all areas of the existing jail.

Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program

On June 13, the Board of County Commissioners approved the submittal of a grant application to the Indian River Lagoon Estuary Program for funding of \$50,000 to be utilized for an environmental project at Blind Creek. The grant will be used for partial funding of a \$176,998 environmental restoration project at Blind Creek Park that involves the removal of invasive plants and re-planting with native species.

Lawnwood Sports Complex Soccer Fields

On June 13, the Board of County Commissioners, awarded Bid#06-058 - Lawnwood Sports Complex Soccer Fields to the low bidder, The Collage Companies, in the amount of \$797,490. The project will include four full-sized soccer fields.

Upcoming Events at the Oxbow Eco-Center

Guided Canoe/Kayak Tours ~ Join an Oxbow naturalist for a leisurely paddle down the St. Lucie River. Fee is \$10 per person. Children 5 - 7 are free. Reservations and prepayment is required. For more information, please call (772) 785-5842.

Hurricane Preparedness Programs at the Downtown Fort Pierce Library

June is "hurricane preparedness month" at the Fort Pierce Library and the Library will present a series of **free** programs to help residents "weather the storm season!" All programs will begin at 1:30 p.m. at the Library located at 101 Melody Lane in downtown Fort Pierce.

- June 15, "What the Heck is a Hurricane?" presented by Mike Lyons, WPBF News 25 Chief Weather
- June 22, "Animals and Hurricanes" presented by the St. Lucie County Humane Society

For more information about these or any programs at the Fort Pierce Library, call (772) 462-2787.

Morningside Library Events

Current Events Discussion Group ~ Every Wednesday from 1 to 3 p.m.

Manga Youth Book Discussion Club ~ Every Monday from 3:45 to 5 p.m.

Monday Musings Book Discussion ~ Every second Monday of the month at 3 p.m.

Tuesdays with Maureen Book Discussion ~ Every first Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. All discussion groups are open for drop-ins. Call 337-5632 for more information.

Joseph E. Smith, District 1 • Doug Coward, District 2 • Paula A. Lewis, District 3
Frannie Hutchinson, District 4 • Chris Craft, District 5

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